

Local Items

All About Our Town And Its People

Pvt. Elzy Guy, one of Uncle Sam's soldier boys from Camp Custer, visited relatives and friends here over the holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Headworth entertained to a bountiful turkey dinner, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Guye, Pvt. Elzy Guye, of Camp Custer, Miss Hannah Franks, Mr. and Mrs. John Bricker and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Roland on Thanksgiving day.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Skellenger and family ate a Thanksgiving goose and roast chicken at the home of John Mehney, Thanksgiving.

"The Light in the Clearing." Have your photographs made at the Dennis Studio. All work guaranteed to be out before Christmas.—Adv.

There will be a regular meeting of Dotic chapter, No. 75, O. E. S., on Tuesday evening, Dec. 10. A large attendance is desired. Beasie Peterson, secretary.

Marjorie Hilton of Lansing spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Reed. She returned Saturday.

Miss Neva Russell of Baldwin is spending a few days with her aunt, Mrs. W. E. Olds.

"The Light in the Clearing." Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Fuller of Petoskey left here Monday for Greenville where they will visit a few days, after having been called to this city to attend the funeral of her brother, Mr. A. Chapman. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller were former residents of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Luno, of Pontiac, arrived Wednesday of last week for an over Thanksgiving day visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Hubbard.

"The Light in the Clearing." Dale Klock returned to Mt. Pleasant Saturday afternoon after spending a 10 day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Klock.

Mrs. Wm. Barton was in Greenville Saturday on business.

Othel Nielsen was in Greenville on business Saturday.

Miss Daisy Brown and Mrs. Stella Cooper returned to Greenville Saturday afternoon.

"America's Answer," U. S. Govt. war film at Empress Tuesday, Dec. 10.

Miss Clara Lincoln, teacher of the Pleasant Hill school, spent the week end with her sister, Mrs. O. A. Nielsen.

"The Light in the Clearing." Mrs. Mary Bain of Greenville was in Belding Saturday on business.

Mrs. Eva E. Bignell and Mary Bignell spent Thanksgiving at the home of Tom Skellenger, McBride.

C. J. Seely and daughter, Frances returned to Kalamazoo Monday morning after visiting at the home of Seely Brothers.

Mrs. A. Gaffield left for Grand Rapids Monday to visit relatives and friends.

"The Light in the Clearing." Ethel Barrymore in "Our Mrs. McChesney" at Empress Saturday.

Miss Ella Bady of Grand Rapids has been visiting her grandmother, Mrs. D. F. Bady.

Mrs. Albert Hanson returned to Grand Haven Monday after spending Thanksgiving with her mother, Mrs. D. O. Thompson.

Mrs. Ella Williams has been visiting at the home of her brother, Elmer Cook. She left for Grand Rapids on Monday.

"The Light in the Clearing." Miss Purdie Woody of Fennville, returned to her home Monday morning after spending Thanksgiving with her mother, Mrs. Rickel.

Mrs. A. B. Castle returned to her home in Grand Rapids Monday morning after spending Thanksgiving with her granddaughter, Mrs. Fern Sprague.

"The Light in the Clearing." One of the best photoplays at the Empress this season will be next Saturday. Ethel Barrymore in "Our Mrs. McChesney." This is Miss Barrymore's stage success also. Don't fail to see this Metro.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Coleman Dec. 1, a 9 pound son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Krick, Nov. 28, a 9 pound son.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cutler, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Cutler and children from Muir, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hulbert and family of Orleans were Thanksgiving guests at S. J. Smith's.

"Before going to bed, I always rub a little Parisian Sage into my scalp," says a woman whose luxurious hair is greatly admired. This cures dandruff, stops itching scalp and keeps the hair from falling out. Guaranteed by Wortley & French.—adv.

"The Light in the Clearing."

"H. C. H.," "Liberty" and "Black Seal" cigars will please you. Try them.—Adv.

DON'T THROW OLD SHOES



AT THE BRIDE AND GROOM FOR LUCK

THEY'RE TOO VALUABLE

With our Equipment we can restore them to renewed life & usefulness.

ECONOMY IS WEALTH!

and suggests the bringing of old shoes here for repairs!

DO IT TODAY!

Electric Shoe Shop

Arnold Schmidt, Prop.

FORMER EMPLOYEES WRITES LETTERS OF BIG DRIVE

(Continued From Page One.)

should happen to think of something exciting.

You probably will be surprised to learn that I am still in the hospital and I am quite surprised myself but some of these fine days I'll be leaving this place. I am not quite as strong as I was but I will come back slowly. Each ward has a large tent for an annex except these last few wards and they haven't put ours up yet but when they do get it up, I expect to be put in it, so the chances are I may be here for a week yet. By that time I'll be rested up in good shape.

I just finished reading yesterday's New York Herald and Chicago Tribune and the allies are still driving their back. I'll be glad when they are driven out of France and Belgium and then perhaps they will want to settle things up in a hurry.

Gee, but it is a great feeling that comes over us when we see many groups of German prisoners come marching in with Americans as escorts.

The only wounded American I saw on the morning of the drive was carried in by two German prisoners. They seem to be glad they are captured but you can't take their word for anything. We crossed many a hill and valley that afternoon carrying our heavy loads and when we got to the top of another hill we had to stop there for the night as the Boches were right in front of us with their machine guns and when it got dark we could see the flash from their large guns just across the valley. We could also hear them moving their large guns by the sound of horses and wagons on the road. We kept on going the next morning though.

Say, but I saw some sight a day or so after while we were holding our positions. The allied planes were hovering over us and along comes a plane with a black cross on it. Well one of the allied planes fires at it about four times with the tracer bullets and then the other one comes along and gives him as many more and the poor German plane starts to burn and before he struck the ground the plane was one mass of fire. It really looked beautiful. The tanks and armored cars came and helped us out that same night and believe me after having as hard a day as we had it sure looked good to see these implements of war come creeping up and go ahead of us. We did get into an awful bad fix one afternoon when we were right on the top of a hill and all at once 7 or 8 German planes popped into sight and they circled over us for 10 or 15 minutes and some of them came pretty low too. We fired our machine guns at them and also made use of our automatic pistols but all we did was chase them away. It is a wonder that they didn't drop some bombs or turn their machine guns on us. This was not all that happened while I was up to the front for the second time and I will be glad when I get back so I can tell you the rest. Gee, but I hope I never get into such positions again. It seems funny that all the time I was up there there was no gas at all and then when I got up the third time I got gassed. I wasn't the only one though and I can't see how it could be helped. I am always careful about that stuff and keep my mask on as long as necessary but I guess it came too quick for me. It did make me feel miserable for a few days.

This is the worst country for rain I ever heard of. It is raining all the time. Oh, now and then the sun comes out for a few minutes. I hate to knock a country I am living in but the French train service is far worse than any railroad in my country. It took us nearly 36 hours to make the trip here while even the P. M. could make it in six or seven hours. Oh, well, after they get used to seeing Uncle Sam's engines and cars they will probably wake up.

Well, folks, guess I am nearly run down so will have to close for this time. Give my love and best wishes to those in Belding. Your loving brother and uncle,

Francis.

The second letter is from Lynn Simmons, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Simmons and is written to his cousin, Mrs. George W. Thomas, as follows:

Somewhere in France, Oct. 30.

Dear Cousin:

I received your letter and was very glad to hear from you. You might have thought I had forgotten I had a cousin but I did not.

There is nothing to write about any more only to let you know I am still living and feeling fine.

Harmond and I have been transferred and sent over half of France on different details.

It is a good thing the soldiers don't have any money over here because everything costs twice or three times as much as it does in the U. S.

I got a letter from Lyle; he is having a good time with the rest of the Yanks.

A soldier in the U. S. doesn't know what hiking is till he is in France about a month. When I get home I will be able to walk to Grand Rapids and carry 100 pounds all the way and get there in one day.

I will be in France six months by the time you get this letter. I have been in nearly every part of the army—now I am in the veterinary corps taking care of wounded horses.

There are plenty of rabbits around our camp but we don't dare shoot a rifle so we don't get any.

The way the Frenchmen get their fish, they throw a grenade in the water and get all they want. We put some in a little stream but all we got was little minnows.

Once in a while one of Fritz's birds come over and shake the ground around us but we don't mind it any more.

I think we might be home by next 4th of July. They might keep us here all winter if Germany did quit, you know it would be pretty cold going across the ocean this winter. For me I will ride a raft home if they only come across and sign that peace before winter.

I can't think of any more this time but will try and write more next time.

Your cousin,

Lynn F. Simmons.

The next letter is from Rollin Donovan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Donovan of Grafton and is designed

to write this letter with. I don't know whether you can make it out or not. There is an Irish boy here in my ward that came from Tipperary, Ireland; he says he knows quite a lot of our people around there by my name. He wants me to go back with him after we get out of the army. I guess I will have to go if there is a chance. He knows where the Akley people live—that is the first place I saw when I came over here and it looked like the best place I ever saw in my life. Well, I think by next spring I will be ready to sail back across the old pond. I don't think that it will take so long to get back across as it did to come over. Well, I will have to close for this time as this pen is all in. Tell all hello. Will say good bye, from your son,

Pvt. Rollin Donovan, 340th Field Hospital, A. E. F., France. SIGNED

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. King have also received the following letter from their son, Charles, who has been over seas for a quite a long time now:

Somewhere, October 28, 1918.

Dear Mother:

Just a few lines to let you know I am o. k. I have been in the hospital again on the sick list with the influenza. Gee, but it is awful and I sure feel for anyone who gets it.

But I am feeling good now and expect to get out tomorrow.

Well, mother, while I have been in the hospital, I got 11 letters from you, four from a girl in Jersey City, one from Austria and one from her brother, also one from Mrs. Gamber and I got two Banners and two Leslie's.

So you see I got a lot of cheer all at once.

Well, Mother, hang on to the little old Ford till I get back for if I am driving big cars over here, I still stick up for the Ford.

Well, Mother, I am sending you a Christmas coupon for a box of anything you want to send me. I have had this coupon for over a week and this is the first time I have had to send it. I got it about the 20th, so if you don't get it in time, well don't worry for I have got lots and the war will soon be over.

When I was in the hospital I didn't care whether there ever was a Christmas or not.

Well, Mother, tell Dad and all I said hello and that I wish I could start out with my old G. M. C. and drive home and I'll bet it wouldn't take over a week to make it for the old baby sure will ramble.

Say, Mother, don't worry about me being lonesome for I am too busy for that and I am well provided with good warm clothes.

One thing I'll say is, that Uncle Sam is a good provider. I have a good overcoat, two suits of clothes, two rain coats, one of which is a Red Cross issue, a pair of boots that come up to my hips, three pairs of shoes, one I bought; they are tan shoes; six heavy pairs of wool socks; they gave me a pair when I was in the hospital and U. S. issues you five pairs. So you see I am well provided for.

Oh, yes, my service record came last night so I'll have a pile of francs to spend next month.

Well, Mother, I guess I'll close for this time, hoping to hear from you

soon. I remain as B-4, your loving son,

1st Pvt. Charles E. King, Evac. Amb. Co., Prov. No. 1, A. E. F., A. P. O. 784, Care Evac. Hosp. No. 1 (Continued on page four)

Ellsworth Lincoln, proprietor with Arthur B. Foss in the city laundry of this place writes the following letter to his parents:

France, Oct. 21, 1918.

Dear Parents and Family:

I got a good bunch of mail today,

LONG LAKE

Will Reimer of Palo had business with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Dodson last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will were up to their cottage Tuesday.

Mrs. Mary Davis of Palo is keeping house for Floyd Mikesell.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Dodson and daughters, Marie and Ruth spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. James McNeilly and family near Palo.

Miss Elizabeth Hall spent Thanksgiving with her parents in Grand Rapids.

Miss Esther Kenyon spent Thanksgiving at her home in Portland.

Mrs. Frank Hall and children, Lloyd and Herman of Lansing are spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hall.

Carl Yeomans of Charlotte visited J. E. Dodson and family Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Miles Merriett went to Greenville Friday to visit her relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Will Freeman who were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Henry Strong.

The natives of Long Lake thought Miles Merriett was crazy when he

took a ride on his steamer the first day of December. It wasn't because he wanted to, it was a case of have to as it broke loose and floated to the Belding side.

Glenn Morris was home Thanksgiving day from Camp Custer.

Lindley Morris of Owosso is spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Morris.

Ed. Trowbridge is very ill with flu.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Bates of Ionia spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Sylvia Cantfield and family.

Ed. Whitford of Belding called on his sister, Mrs. Alice Brown Sunday.

John Kern received word from Bay City that his brother, Dewitt, was very low with diphtheria.

Mrs. John Kern and children went to Bay City Sunday.

PALO

Narrisse Pitcher with his crew just completed a barn for Mrs. H. W. Fishell, 36x50 and are now building one for Mrs. Adell Howorth, making 12 barns this summer he has completed.

Dale Van Tassel of Muskegon visited his cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Ray North, Tuesday.

Grant Sylsbee, who has been so ill with the flu, is slowly improving.

Miss Mildred North is ill with the chicken-pox.

Mr. Hawley is moving his tenant house just purchased of Mrs. H. W. Fishell to his home near Vicksburg.

Mr. Eldridge is doing the work.

Jay Waggoner and family have moved to their new home near Detroit.

The Recognized Store for Gifts to a Man.



your friends, who are going to make a gift to the same man, to join with you in giving a gift of real merit.

These well known suits and overcoats come in all the latest styles and patterns and we're sure to have one to please.

\$21 \$25 \$30 \$35

Silk Shirts

During this war men have refrained from buying many of the things they most desire.

Every man desires the looks and comforts he gets in one of these pure silk and silk stripe shirts, so why not include one in your list; it will be a source of great pleasure and lasting value.

\$3.50 \$5 \$6

Why Not Handkerchiefs

They're about the last thing a man thinks of buying for himself.

If you take our tip you will add a few to his Christmas list.

They cost but little, but oh, how useful.

Linen, initial or plain

15c 25c 50c

A Glove Tip

Yes he probably has gloves; but they can't last forever, and any man is quick to appreciate an extra pair.

The main thing is to get good gloves; they must wear well and be dressy—two striking features of our Holiday assortment.

\$1 \$2 \$3 \$5

Caps are Good Gifts

Remember your friends who spend their Christmas visiting friends, by giving them one of these Leather Bags.

The value in our luggage will be appreciated wherever received and they're right in line with the spirit of useful gifts.

\$6 \$8 \$10 \$14 \$18

Luggage for Christmas

Remember your friends who spend their Christmas visiting friends, by giving them one of these Leather Bags.

The value in our luggage will be appreciated wherever received and they're right in line with the spirit of useful gifts.

\$6 \$8 \$10 \$14 \$18

Bedroom Slippers

Just the thing to go with one of those bathrobes; they add so much pleasure.

In our assortment of Comfy felt or leather slippers you'll surely find just what you want.

\$1.50 \$2 \$3

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Fristoe & Divine

A Christmas Store for Men

A Yuletide that Deserves Generous Recognition

Xtragood Clothes

Last year all Americans were bent on winning the Great World War; our hearts were heavy as a result of the suffering in the oppressed nations. This year the dawn of Peace and Good Will offered to all mankind nearly two thousand years ago, seems to be rising in the East. The Love and Kindness one feels for family and friends deserves expression, yet we should endeavor to avoid all by giving useful gifts. To make it easy for you to secure just what you want, and to enable us to avoid poor service and excessive expense the last few days, we ask you to do your Christmas shopping early as possible. Gifts selected at this store carry a message of quality to your men friends which no recipient can overlook.



CHRISTMAS GIFTS for MEN

Underwear

Why not a nice wool unionsuit; they're about the warmest garment a man can put on these cold winter days.

We feature the well known Staiey Brand wool underwear which is the best known and best wearing garment made.

Let us show you the different grades before you complete your Christmas list.

\$4 \$5 \$6 \$7

Iron Clad Hosiery

Do you know that few men ever have more hosiery than they really need?

Let us suggest that you add hosiery to your list, a very sensible gift this year.

We've some awfully good values in Lisle, Mercerized and Silk that fit and wear the way you like them too.

Boxed any way you like them.

35c 50c 75c \$1

Bath Robe Comfort

The comfort and satisfaction a man gets from the use of a bathrobe is worth many times the price; they cost but little and last for years.

Our selection of these robes is very complete; the materials are heavy and serviceable, and they're very attractively finished.

\$5 \$6 \$8 \$10

Bedroom Slippers

Just the thing to go with one of those bathrobes; they add so much pleasure.

In our assortment of Comfy felt or leather slippers you'll surely find just what you want.

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